

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Rake et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unknown
)	
Appl. No.	:	Unknown)	
)	
Filed	:	Herewith)	
)	
For	:	FLUID CONTAINER FOR)	
		USE WITH PLATEN PUMP)	
)	
Examiner	:	Unknown		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments in connection with the above-captioned application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation of copending application Serial No. 876,180 filed June 23, 1997 which is a continuation-in-part of copending application Serial No. 898,958 filed June 15, 1992 which is a continuation-in-part of copending application Serial No. 824,855 filed January 24, 1992.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-13 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

14. An infusion pump comprising:

a first shell defining a non-planar interior surface;

a second shell removably secured to said first shell;

a platen defining a non-planar surface complementary to said interior surface of said first shell, said platen being positioned between said first and second shells such that said non-planar surface of said platen faces said interior surface of said first shell and defines a variable-volume space therebetween, said space being configured to hold a fluid delivery bag therein;

a spring arranged to bias said platen in a first direction to decrease the volume of said space;

wherein said spring, said platen and said interior surface are configured to compress said fluid delivery bag to expel fluid therefrom when said platen is moving in said first direction.

15. The infusion pump of Claim 14, wherein said spring is attached to at least one of said second shell and said platen.

16. The infusion pump of Claim 14, wherein said first shell is threadably engaged with said second shell.

17. The infusion pump of Claim 14, wherein said first and second shells are generally circular in outer shape.

18. The infusion pump of Claim 14, wherein said first and second shells are generally rectangular in outer shape.

19. An infusion pump comprising:

a first shell defining a non-planar interior surface;

a second shell removably secured to said first shell;

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a platen defining a non-planar surface complementary to said interior surface of said first shell, said platen being positioned between said first and second shells such that said non-planar surface of said platen faces said interior surface of said first shell and defines a variable-volume space therebetween, said space being configured to hold a fluid delivery bag therein;

at least one spring arranged to bias said platen in a first direction to decrease the volume of said space;

wherein said at least one spring, said platen and said interior surface are configured to compress said fluid delivery bag to expel fluid therefrom when said platen is moving in said first direction.

20. The infusion pump of Claim 19, wherein said at least one spring comprises a first spring and a second spring, said infusion pump additionally comprising a parallelogram linkage assembly positioned between said platen and said second shell, said first and second springs configured to exert a spring force on said parallelogram linkage assembly, said parallelogram linkage assembly being configured to bias said platen in said first direction in response to said spring force.

21. The infusion pump of Claim 20, wherein said parallelogram linkage assembly comprises a first arm and a second arm rotatably attached to said platen, said parallelogram linkage assembly additionally comprising a third arm and a fourth arm rotatably attached to said second shell, wherein a component of said spring force of said first spring acts on said first and third arms and a component of said spring force of said second spring acts on said second and fourth arms.

22. The infusion pump of Claim 21, wherein said parallelogram linkage assembly additionally comprises a shaft having first and second ends, a first slide and a second slide slidably positioned on said shaft, said first spring positioned between said first end and said first slide, said component of said spring force of said first spring acting on said first and third arms through said first slide and said second spring positioned between said second end and said second slide, said component of said spring force of said second spring acting on said second and fourth arms through said second slide.

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23. A kit for assembling an infusion pump, comprising:
a first shell defining a non-planar interior surface;
a second shell configured to be removably secured to said first shell;
a platen defining a non-planar surface complementary to said interior surface of said first shell, said platen being sized and shaped to be capable of being positioned between said first and second shells such that said non-planar surface of said platen faces said interior surface of said first shell to define a variable-volume space therebetween when so positioned, said space being configured to hold a fluid delivery bag therein; and
said at least one spring sized and shaped to be positioned between said second shell and said platen to bias said platen in an infusion direction tending to decrease the volume of said space.

24. The kit of Claim 23, additionally comprising a fluid delivery bag connected to an outlet tube, said fluid delivery bag being sized and shaped to be positioned within said variable-volume space, said at least one spring, said platen and said interior surface configured to compress said fluid delivery bag to expel fluid therefrom through said outlet tube when said platen is moving in said infusion direction.

25. The kit of Claim 23, wherein said at least one spring comprises a first spring and a second spring, said infusion pump additionally comprising a parallelogram linkage assembly positioned between said platen and said second shell, said first and second springs configured to exert a spring force on said parallelogram linkage assembly, said parallelogram linkage assembly being configured to bias said platen in said infusion direction in response to said spring force.

26. The infusion pump of Claim 25, wherein said parallelogram linkage assembly comprises a first arm and a second arm rotatably attached to said platen, said parallelogram linkage assembly additionally comprising a third arm and a fourth arm rotatably attached to said second shell, wherein a component of said spring force of said first spring acts on said first and third arms and a component of said spring force of said second spring acts on said second and fourth arms.

27. The infusion pump of Claim 26, wherein said parallelogram linkage assembly additionally comprises a shaft having first and second ends, a first slide and a second slide

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slidably positioned on said shaft, said first spring positioned between said first end and said first slide, said component of said spring force of said first spring acting on said first and third arms through said first slide and said second spring positioned between said second end and said second slide, said component of said spring force of said second spring acting on said second and fourth arms through said second slide.

COMMENTS

Prior to this Amendment, Claims 1-13 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-13 have been canceled and new Claims 14-27 have been added by this amendment. Thus, Claims 14-27 are now pending.

The specific changes to the specification are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, the insertions are underlined while the ~~deletions are stricken through~~.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments before examination of the above-captioned application on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 26, 2001

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2 has been amended as follows:

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